Canvassing work by Government servants for the recent Legislative Council elections.

23. **MR. JOSEPH KUNJU** (*Changanachery* cum *Peermade*) : Are the Government aware of any canvassing work done, in violation of their orders, by any Government servants in favour of any candidate or candidates at the recent elections to the Legislative Council ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) ; No.

Supply of medicines to the District Hospital, Shertallai.

24. **MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI** (*Shertallai*) : Will the Government be pleased to state the exact expenditure incurred in connection with the supply of new stock of medicines to the District Hospital, Shertallai, during the last three years ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : The transport charges for the supply of new medicines to the Shertallai hospital were as follows :—

Year.		*Expenditure.*		
		Rs.	Chs.	C.
1103	...	7	2	8
1104	...	17	20	12
1105	...	19	21	12

If information about the value of the medicines supplied to the hospital during these three years is required, the Government do not propose to collect the information as the time and labour involved in compiling the statement will be out of proportion to its possible utility.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*) : Do not the Government keep accounts of the total quantity of medicines supplied to each hospital ?

MR P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : They do.

MR. K P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*) : Then I do not see where is the difficulty in supplying me the information with regard to the cost of medicines supplied to the Shertallai hospital during the last three years ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) : There are over 300 different items of medicines generally supplied to each and every hospital in the State, and it would be waste of time to prepare a statement of account, for all these, for the last three years.

MR. K. P. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Shertallai*) : I want the information only with regard to the District Hospital at Shertallai, and not the total expenditure for the whole State. Am I to take it that the Government are not in a position to supply me the information on that topic ?

MR. P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*) ; That is not it ; the preparation of a statement of account with regard to over 300 items of medicines would involve a good deal of labour which, the Government consider, would be out of proportion to its possible utility.

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